

# F E B R U A R Y

at the

# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Date: Friday, February 19, 8:15 p.m.

Place: Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Cleveland P. Grant

**Subject:** "LAND OF EARLY AUTUMN"

Autumn arrives quickly in the West and seems to snuff out summer before it has begun. Mr. Grant uses the riotous colors of the land as a background for rare segments of film on ruffed grouse, scarlet tanagers, moose, fox, battling bisons and grizzly bears. (Members and guests)

## MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"PARADE OF THE PLANETS" continues through February 14

"STARS OVER SAN FRANCISCO" begins Feb. 17

The new show at Morrison will acquaint you more fully with the stars immediately above your head. Performances daily, Wednesday through Sunday, at 3:30 and 8:30 p.m., with an extra matinee at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Through April 3. (Adults, 75¢, Juniors, 40¢)

## SPECIAL EXHIBIT

"IT'S ALL IN HOW YOU LOOK AT THINGS"

Sixty unusual photographs of seashore life as it appears in the tide pools along the Pacific Coast. The pictures are the work of Donovan E. Roberts of Los Angeles. Lovell White Hall of Man and Nature. Through March 20. (No admission charge)

## "SCIENCE IN ACTION"

Monday nights, 7:00 p.m., KRON-TV, Channel 4

- February 8: "Anti-Matter", with Guest Scientist, Dr. Emilio Segre, University of California, co-winner of the 1959 Nobel Prize in Physics.

February 15: "How Medicine Works", with Avram Goldstein, Stanford School of Medicine

February 22: "Poisons in Nature", with Bruce Halstead, M. D., Director, World Life Institute, Colton, California

February 29: "Your Eyes and You", with Arthur Jampolsky, M. D., eye specialist, San Francisco

**G**ifts, both utilitarian and beautiful, continue to come to the Mailliard Library. Mr. Philip W. Thompkins has presented a handsome three-section book display case for the exhibition of Library rarities. The California Botanical Club has given a mint-condition, three volume set of "Exotic Flora" by William Jackson Hooker, published in 1823 in Edinburgh, and Miss Catherine Kirkham Wheeler has presented a collection of mid-19th century travel books which were originally in the library of her illustrious grandfather, General R. W. Kirkham.

held in Chicago of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, W. I. Follett, the Academy's Curator of Fishes, was elected President of the Society of Systematic Zoology for 1960. With Dr. Robert T. Orr holding the position of President of the American Society of Mammalogists, and Dr. Robert C. Miller having recently been elected President-Elect of the Academy Conference, the Academy now has three Presidents of national science organizations on its staff.

Saturday during January, you might have thought that the Cub Scouts had laid siege to the Academy in general and Morrison Planetarium in particular. The Boy Scouts of America placed particular emphasis on the subject of astronomy during the first month of the year, and the Planetarium was a natural Mecca. This year, an all-time record for attendance was set for these especially designed morning shows. Approximately 3,500 avidly interested young star-gazers attended. That, according to Lorraine Rogers of the Planetarium Staff who is in charge of the arrangements, is a lot of Cubs!

**M**r. Robert A. Falla, Director of the Dominion Museum of Wellington, New Zealand, was a January visitor to the Academy. He was en route home after having attended a scientific meeting in London. Dr. Falla, who last visited the Academy in 1939, is a well-known ornithologist, specializing in oceanic birds of the southern hemisphere.

Thomas Howell of the Botany Department has been delivering a series of illustrated lectures on the

Figwort Family in California to interested clubs and organizations in the Bay Area. The color slides of the showy flowers, which include Penstemon, monkey flowers, owl's clovers and Indian paint brush, were taken by Charles Webber, a member of the Academy.

JUST PUBLISHED!

## "THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS"

by Joseph Richard Slevin

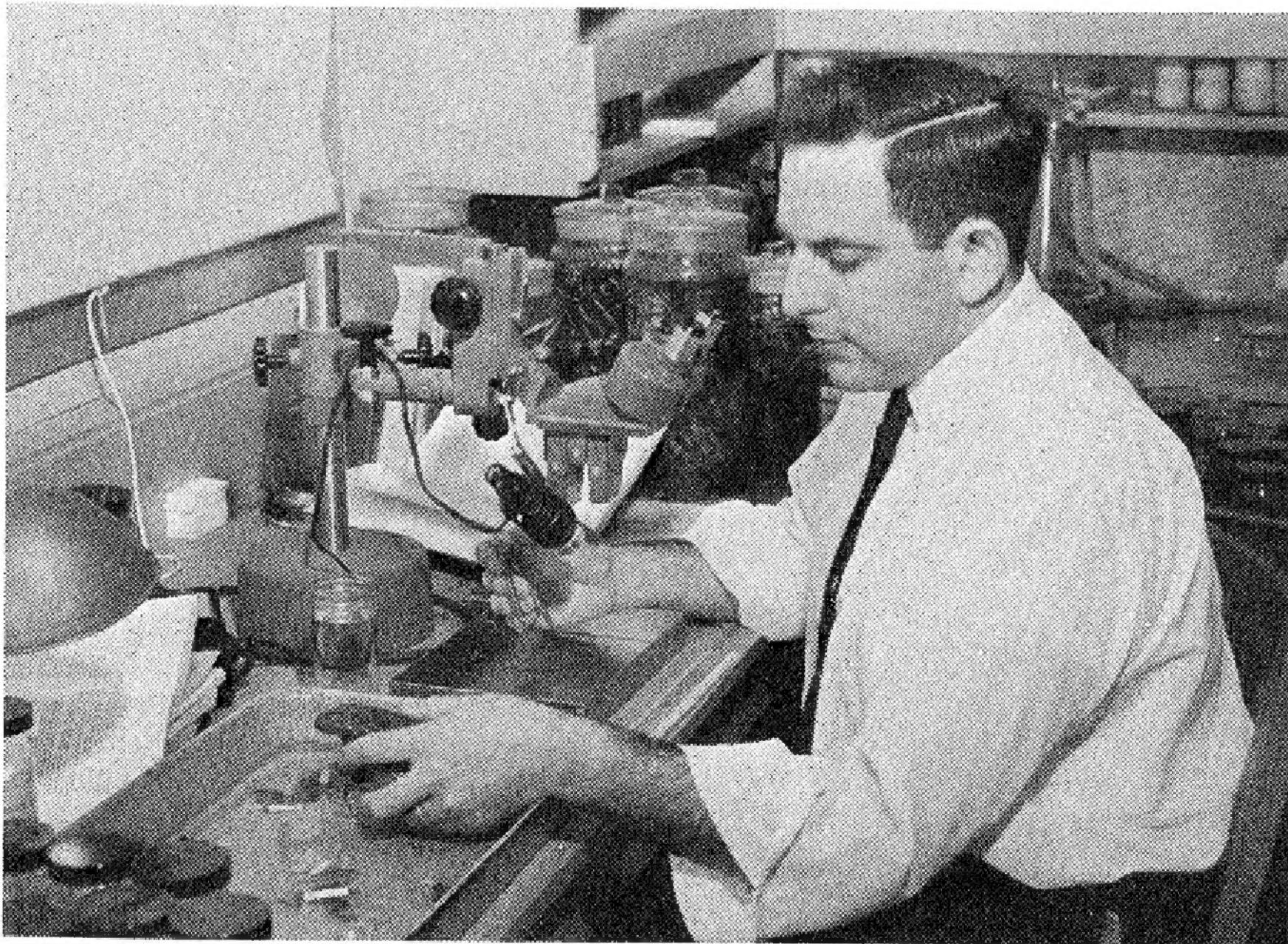
A 150-page documented report on the history and exploration of the "Treasure Islands of Science", compiled from British admiralty records, ship's papers, diaries, published reports and personal exploration by the author. Order direct from the Academy. Price postpaid, \$3.75.

Initial designs are in process in the Instrument Shop for the construction of an orrery for the Griffith Observatory and Planetarium in Los Angeles which will show the motions of the planets as far out in space as the planet Jupiter. This particular orrery is unique in that its construction involves elliptical gears.

Benjamin Draper, peripatetic producer of "Science in Action", has been made a member of United Airlines' 100,000 Mile Club. Actually, Ben has travelled 151,000 miles by air, the major mileage being in connection with his television duties for "S in A".

Two of San Francisco's most eminent institutions, the M. H. de Young Museum and the Academy, cooperated closely in presenting the first glimpses to be had locally of the famous Brundage collection of jade. Twelve of the rare and priceless objects were selected especially by Mr. Brundage in Chicago and shipped to San Francisco where they were viewed by at least a half-million viewers on "Science in Action".

# Meet the Staff



**ALAN E. LEVITON**, Assistant Curator (in charge) of the Department of Reptiles and Amphibians, possesses the newest Ph. D. in the Academy, having been awarded his doctorate on January 8, 1960.

His interest in herpetology is a long-range affair. Alan was born in Brooklyn, New York, and at the age of thirteen, volunteered for work at the American Museum of Natural History. He received his A.B., A.M., and his Ph. D. in biology from Stanford, interspersing his higher education with summer training at Columbia, New York University and the University of Nebraska.

Alan has been associated with the Academy since 1956 where he has functioned not only as Assistant in the Department of Herpetology but as a supervisor in the Student Section from 1956 until February, 1959. He was the principle planner for the 1958-1959 Academy expedition to Baja California.

He has been married since 1952 and is the father of two children, as he says, "One of each!" Other interests include stamps, chess, photography and rifle shooting.

He is formulating plans for an extensive collecting trip to Peru, Northern Argentina and Brazil in 1961.

## NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

### Regular Membership

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Mr. William J. Mogar  
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Mr. Edward E. Tanner  
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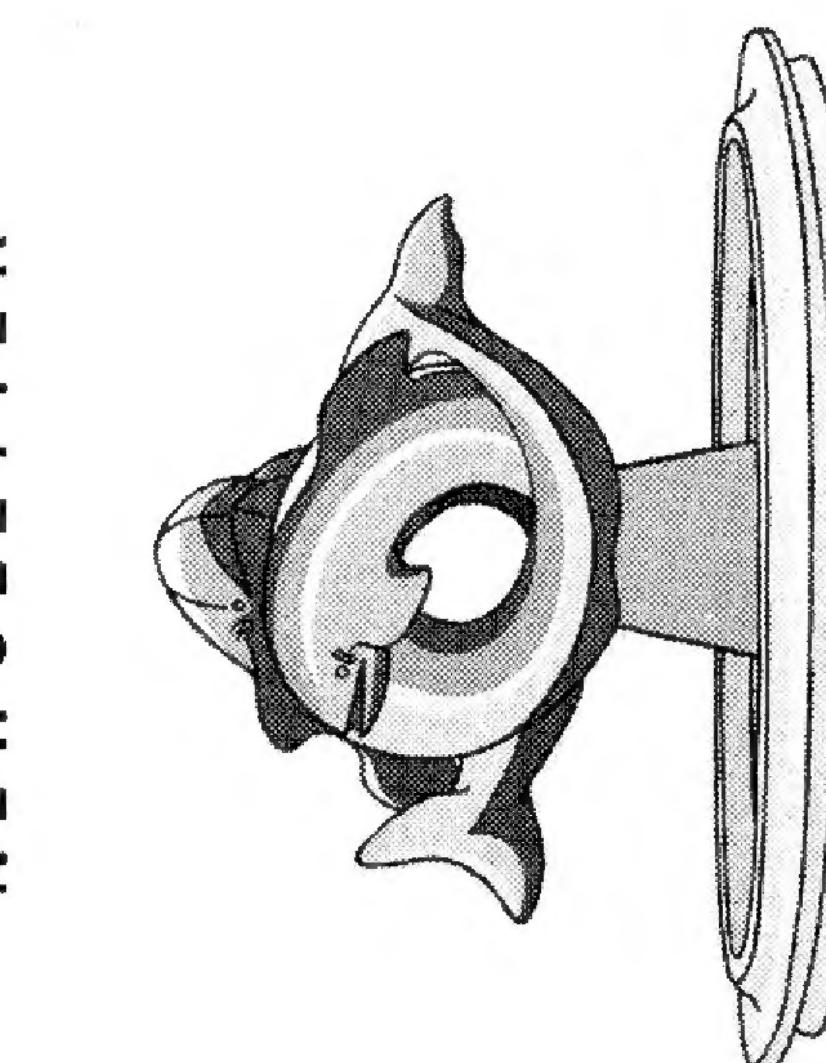
### Student Membership

Darwen Hennings

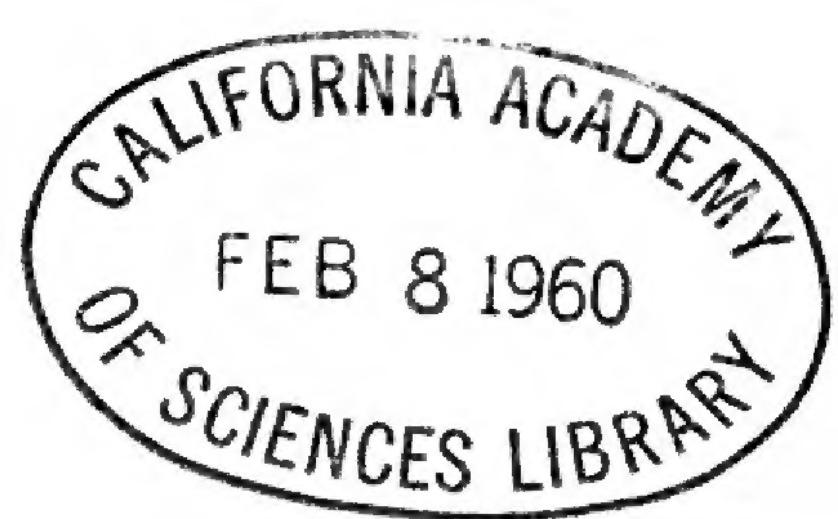
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NEWSLETTER



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